

# Teale PARTNERSHIP NEWS

FEBRUARY 1997

TECHNOLOGY • LEADERSHIP • SERVICE • TEALE DATA CENTER

## CONTRACTORS' STATE LICENSE BOARD [Interactive Web-to-Mainframe Access](#)

The Contractors' State License Board (CSLB) maintains a web site on the Internet that is quickly becoming a popular way for customers to obtain information. By accessing "www.cslb.ca.gov", you can find out how to order forms from the Board, where branch offices are located, what new developments are underway, and how to obtain licensing and complaint assistance.

Also, the license status of contractors may be requested as an e-mail

response over the Web. The time-driven process returns data from Teale's mainframe through Teale's OfficeVision electronic mail usually within 45 minutes. While not exactly mind-boggling speed, the process was a very progressive implementation in the early stages of web development.

Recently Software AG (SAG) launched a new web-enabling line of products. One of these products,

iXpress, links HTML documents to back-end databases by requesting services of the back-end platform. Keith Blair says that "the Software AG company provided the ideal solution for us to explore, and we didn't have to 'reinvent the wheel'." Now CSLB can reuse programs already developed on the mainframe to *interactively* return a response to the web browser. Response is *immediate and current*.

Eager to see whether iXpress would overcome the limitations of the first-cut license query system, CSLB teamed

with Teale to evaluate the SAG products. With the help of SAG services, a test web site was quickly developed.

In December 1996, selected participants began piloting the system with almost immediate positive feedback. The City of Lodi was extremely pleased that the pilot web-based system detected an invalid contractor's license before a building permit was issued. The

City of Lodi was already web-capable so with just a quick telephone call, CSLB made the pilot application available to this agency without the time or cost of a network install.

To learn more about CSLB's World-Wide Web project, plan to attend Teale's Technology Day in March 1997.

For more information or to register for this event, please call (916) 263-1464 or send a fax to (916) 921-2218. To register via OfficeVision, please send a note to DC(DCRSVP).

"CSLB VIEWS THE INTERNET AS A VERY COST-EFFECTIVE TOOL IN 'GETTING THE WORD OUT' REGARDING CONTRACTOR LICENSE STATUS."

Keith Blair,  
CSLB's Data Processing Manager

## NEW DATA STORAGE TECHNOLOGY

Providing efficient and cost-effective solutions for the storage of customer data is a major consideration of Teale's Storage Administration staff who recently implemented new and innovative technology known as RAID (Redundant Arrays of Independent Disks).

RAID, a new concept in large systems storage technology, is based on a small DASD (Direct Access Storage Disk) which is 3.5 inches in size compared to the current 10.8 inches. RAID is able to maintain data integrity during a hardware failure, making it the first full fault-tolerant technology available to Teale customers. The first of the RAID devices was installed in August 1996, with subsequent installs planned well into 1997.

All future DASD procurements are planned as RAID-only technology. As more and more of these devices are installed, Teale's customers will benefit through fewer hardware outages. Customers will experience lower costs for storage capacity due to reduced maintenance and environmental costs (power, cooling, floor space, etc.). Also, there should be a decrease in job processing times due to the RAID-engineered architecture, which should provide greater and more consistent input/output data transfer.

Along with the trend toward increased disk accessing, networks and applications such as imaging and graphics are placing heavy, new burdens on fixed disk drives. Teale's implementation of RAID technology is a major step in bridging the gap between processor performance and input/output data transfer.

ANNIVERSARY  
STEPHEN P. TEALE DATA CENTER  
1972-1997

### Teale Celebrates 25th Anniversary

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Stephen P. Teale Data Center. Formed in August 1972, Teale began with just 31 customer departments, 211.5 employees, approximately 200 terminals connected to two IBM 370-165 computers and an annual budget of \$12.75 million. Today Teale's annual budget approaches \$80 million, with 376 personnel, 256 customers with over 75,000 end-user devices connected to Teale's statewide network.

Teale is proud to be a leader in information technology and to provide services that enable California state agencies to better serve the people of California. The daily work performed by our customers touches the lives of nearly every Californian – from processing automobile licenses, inmate information, and state payroll – to air quality standards, health care facilities' databases, and much more.

We would like to thank you, our customers, for your continued business and support. We are committed to assisting you in the application of technology within your organizations now and in the future.

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DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES –  
Electronic Data Interchange Pilot

To evaluate the feasibility of transforming procurements from a paper-based process to an electronic process, the Department of General Services' (DGS) Procurement Division recently initiated the Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) pilot. The Procurement Division's California Electronic Commerce (CalEC) Unit is coordinating this project which should result in increased efficiencies in state purchasing. A DGS news release describes the pilot as follows: "The electronic bid solicitation is an element of Procurement 2000, a reform and restructuring initiative that will see timelier, more cost-effective and more efficient purchasing in State Government."

The first electronic bid solicitation was transmitted in September 1996 and involved a bid for 3,000 rolls of cloth adhesive tape and 5,200 instant ice packs to be used in first aid kits in California Highway Patrol vehicles. Solicitations were sent to two businesses

in the usual manner via fax and one was sent electronically to a firm with EDI capability. The bid data was extracted from the enhanced Procurement Information Network system and transmitted via Teale's CSGnet to the Federal Defense Logistics Agency's EDI hub in Dayton, Ohio. The data was then translated into an EDI transaction and transmitted to the supplier's value-added network for translation into their business system.

The pilot's "Bid Solicitation Response and Purchase Order" transactions are scheduled for implementation in early 1997. Teale's continued involvement with this project will focus primarily on providing the EDI hub technology. To enable the DGS Procurement Division's production implementation later this year, Teale is planning to establish an EDI hub and service offering that will also allow other state agencies to take advantage of Teale's EDI processing services.



UPCOMING  
EVENTS

**February 13, 1997**

Teale Data Center  
*Technology Day with IBM  
COBOL/370 Update*

**February 26, 1997**

Teale Data Center  
*Technology Day  
New Operating System – OS/390*

**March 18, 1997**

Teale Data Center  
*Technology Day  
UC Davis University Extension  
Computers and Information Systems*

**March 1997**

Teale Data Center  
*Technology Day  
Contractors' State License Board  
World-Wide Web Pilot Project*

TECHNICAL TIP

Looking for Information?

The Processor's Manual provides a wide variety of information regarding Teale's processing standards and guidelines. The information can be as general as the location of the Data Center, or as specific as the number of cylinders on a DASD volume. Although the manual is available on microfiche and through batch processing, the most up-to-date information can be viewed online. Here are some tips to assist you:

- To access the manual online, enter **MANUALS** at TSO READY or enter **TSO MANUALS** on the ISPF command line.
- To view a chapter, select 'A' at the primary MANUALS panel; then select the appropriate chapter from the Chapter Selection List.
- To locate a particular subject, refer to the Table of Contents, Index or Summary of Changes.
- To print specific chapters or the entire manual, select 'B' from the primary MANUALS panel.

If you have any questions, please call Teale's Help Desk at (916) 263-1711 (CALNET 435-1711).

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